



## 26 Weeks to Family Emergency Preparedness

- | WEEK | ACTION TO TAKE   |
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| 1    | Get a <b>portable container</b> with a lid to use as an emergency kit. A plastic storage bin or garbage can works well, particularly one with wheels. Choose an accessible location for the container near an exit, and label the container. Make sure all family members know what it will be used for and where it is. |
| 2    | Stock your kit with a <b>three-day supply of water</b> , and don't forget to include water for your pets. You need four litres of water per person per day - two for drinking and two for food preparation and hygiene.  |
| 3    | Arrange an <b>out-of-area phone contact</b> person, and keep this and other emergency phone numbers near each telephone. Teach each family member these numbers.   |
| 4    | Stock your kit with several varieties of <b>canned meat and dried fruit</b> . Include a manual can opener.   |
| 5    | Get a <b>portable radio and extra batteries</b> for your emergency kit.  |
| 6    | <b>Learn about hazards</b> . Find out what the hazards are in your community, and do a home hazard hunt to make your home safer. Secure appliances and heavy furniture, and move beds away from heavy mirrors and windows.   |
| 7    | Give every family member <b>specific safety tasks</b> to do in an emergency. For example, designate one person to be in charge of turning off electricity, one to collect the emergency container, one to take charge of any pets, etc. Add <b>peanuts and granola bars</b> to your kit.                                 |
| 8    | <b>Identify safe places</b> in your home and on your property. Plan and practice evacuation drills using two different escape routes from each room. Add <b>containers of juice or juice crystals</b> to your kit.   |
| 9    | Stock your kit with both large and medium-sized <b>plastic garbage bags</b> (orange or yellow make good visible signals). Large bags can also be used as ponchos, ground covers or blankets. Add <b>plastic or paper dishes</b>  |
| 10   | Identify a <b>family meeting place</b> away from home but close to your regular spots (between work and home or school). Add some <b>books, toys and cards</b> to your kit.  |
| 11   | Add a <b>flashlight and extra batteries</b> , along with candles and waterproof matches.   |
| 12   | Add some <b>dried soups, crackers and peanut butter</b> to your emergency kit.   |
| 13   | <b>Check your insurance policies</b> and make records of your possessions.   |



